



C.A.W.M.C. was founded January 1st, 1975

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Mail:
Box 2643
Station M,
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3C1 Cda

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**July 26, 2015–
July / Aug. 2017**
(depending on 2017 date of
RCNA convention)

Executive

CAWMC OFFICERS

President:

France D. Waychison
france@waychison.com

Past-President,
Secretary-Treasurer,
Membership Chairman:

Al Munro
E-mail:
wood5cents@shaw.ca
Ph: (403) 273-6133

Vice-President:

James Williston
E-mail:
jawilliston@shaw.ca

Elected Members of Board of Governors:

Al Munro (Chairman)
Norm Belsten
Richard Blaylock,
Russell Brown,
Wayne Gillcash,
Dave Gillespie,
James Williston

President's Message

I have exciting news for you! In the New Year, the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors will launch a "very unofficial Canada's Birthday logo" contest. Details are still being worked out and will be announced in the January 2017 issue of the TT. The contest should be opened for 3 months and the winning design will be used on a wood that will be included in all RCNA registration kits, and officially launched at our 2017 AGM and also distributed to all our members.

It is time to renew your membership and a CAWMC "renewal form" is e-mailed along to this issue of TT, please use it to send in your renewal by January 2017. Please include your current e-mail address on the form to receive the TT electronically. As we continue to send some newsletters the good old-fashioned way, a paper renewal form is included with this issue. Please make sure that your renewal form and payment are sent to the address listed on the front page of the Timber Talk.

On behalf of the Board of Governors of CAWMC, I wish a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all our members and their families. Whether we live near or far from our relatives, the holidays are a time to reflect on all the goodness that come from family and friends. The holidays are also an occasion to think of the less fortunate and to try to bring some joy in someone else's life. May you have peace of mind and serenity, especially while we all face the reality and uncertainties of ongoing worldwide upheavals. If you have a moment during the holidays, please consider contributing an article to the TT. You can reach me at **France D. Waychison**, P.O. Box 466, Timmins ON P4N 7E3 or at france@waychison.com.

Keep well,

France



Ralph's Hand-Painted Christmas Woods

Garry Braunwarth's PEI friend Ralph Dickieson produced these beautiful hand-painted numbered woods (#2903-001 1989 qty 32, 38mm; and -002 1990 qty 38, 45mm). The one depicts a small church shown across from Ralph's home in New Glasgow.



Schumacher's Santa Claus, a Century-Old Tradition

by France D. Waychison

(This article refers to wood no 5889-024, issued in 1984 as one (1) of a series of seven (7) woods with a common reverse of "Timmins City with a Heart of Gold, 50¢".)



Frederick W. Schumacher came to *Aura Lake*, a little hamlet on the south shore of *Pearl Lake*, in Northern Ontario, in 1911 and purchased 2 of the most successful claims in Canadian mining history. These claims were located near the Dome Mine and between the Hollinger and McIntyre Mines, all world-class gold producers in the 20th century located in Timmins, Ontario.

The Schumacher Gold Mine was created, and the town was renamed Schumacher, after its founder. And while Frederick W. Schumacher spent much of his life in Columbus, Ohio, he never forgot about the people from the town he founded and fell in love with.

At Christmas 1912, when the community was not yet one year old, Mr. Schumacher provided toys and books for 50 children.

In 1916, the Schumacher Gold mine produced gold bars and the mine's president, Frederick W. Schumacher came forth to provide Christmas gifts for every child in Schumacher, by purchasing gifts for 270 children and shipping them in time for the Christmas party. In 1920, the Christmas presents swelled to almost 1,000 gifts as the names of the high school students were added to the list.

In early 1926, Frederick W. Schumacher established a perpetual trust fund, ensuring the children of Schumacher will continue to receive a special gift each Christmas.

Mr. Schumacher visited Schumacher regularly and took great pleasure at distributing the gifts as often as he could, earning the title "Schumacher's Santa Claus" along the way. It is said that he personally purchased the gifts for about 40 years.

The grandchildren of the legendary benefactor now administer the fund, which annually provides monies to the F.W. Schumacher Gift Committee. The Schumacher Volunteer Fire Department purchases and wraps all gifts and distributes them to the children of elementary school age living in Schumacher, at the annual Christmas party.

The children who are in their last year of the gift-giving tradition also leave the party with a book about Schumacher's life and the important legacy he left behind.

Frederick W. Schumacher was born in 1863 on a Danish island and his family eventually moved to the United States. A pharmacist by trade, Schumacher settled in Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Schumacher was nevertheless the first individual to sink a mineshaft in Schumacher. He erected a lot of the first buildings of Schumacher, the train station, and things of that nature, which brought the people to the area for the Porcupine Gold Rush. He is an important part of the history of this town and of Northern Ontario.

Mr. Schumacher was a civic leader, business owner, philanthropist, philosopher and humanitarian whose interest and love for the town of Schumacher never waned. His last recorded visit to Schumacher (amalgamated to Timmins in 1972) was in 1950, when at 86 years old, accompanied by family members, he came to play Santa Claus for one last





time. He died in 1957, at the age of 93. His legacy lives on to this day, in more ways than one.

On one exterior wall of the McIntyre Arena, in Schumacher, we can see a mural featuring the portrait of Frederick W. Schumacher, a Christmas tree and children with Christmas Gifts. Ed Spenard, an area artist, created this mural.

A statue representing Frederick W. Schumacher on a brisk walk about town is also erected in the Schumacher Parkette.

References:

Smith, Louise Nightingale

1980: Frederick W. Schumacher: Portrait of a Renaissance Man. Porcupine Advance Press, Timmins, Ontario, 65 pages

Smith, Louise Nightingale,

2002: Schumacher: Voices in the Gold Fields, General Store Publishing House, Burnston ,ON, 161 pages

www.timminspress.com, Founding Father legacy lives on, 2014-12-12



Ross Thanks You

The packages of 12 'free woods' for the year 2016 are currently being prepared, in secure packaging, for mailing in early December. An early Christmas present for many of our members. I know there are many members out there who look forward to this package arriving in their mailboxes each year. I hope they all arrive safely. All of these woods have been donated or purchased for our membership to collect. To those who have provided these woods, this past year, or in years past, we extend a sincere THANK YOU.

Our newsletter editor, Judy Blackman, has given us many woods in past years and has done so again this year. Thank you Judy. Thanks also to the Ontario Numismatic Association for donating their ONA 2015 convention flat. Thanks to Al Munro who is always able to 'dig out' many woods for our Association. To France Waychison, our President, thank you for again donating two woods this year. If my memory serves me correctly, it seems every time France gets a wood made, she always thinks of CAWMC. Thank you France.

We already have many woods lined up as free woods in 2017, but we certainly would appreciate receiving any other donations.

Some of our members have already received their packages personally delivered by myself at various shows including the Ottawa RCNA convention, or by Al Munro who delivers many in the Calgary (Alberta) region. This helps to save on our postal costs.

At this time, I remind you, if you haven't already done so, to fill out that renewal form and send it off to Al. For \$10 a year, that is a very cheap renewal (which includes 12 free woods a year and monthly newsletters).





Past Presidents:

2006–2015:
 Al Munro
2003–2005:
 Norm Belsten
2001–2003:
 Earl Salterio*
1995–2001:
 Lou Vesh
1991–1995:
 Pat White*
1985–1991:
 Norm Belsten
1983–1985:
 Neil Probert
1981–1983:
 Stanley Clute
1979–1981:
 Don Robb
1977–1979:
 Victor Hall*
1975–1977:
 Garry Braunwarth

The C.A.W.M.C. was founded on January 1st, 1975, by Garry Braunwarth (C-1) (pictured below) and Victor B. Hall (C-2) in Calgary, Alberta. In addition to the founders, these are the 43 other original charter members.

C- 3 George Parfet
 C- 4 Leslie D. Copan
 C- 5 Norm Williams
 C- 6 Harold Butner
 C- 7 Frank J. DeGillo
 C- 8 N. R. Mack
 C- 9 Clarence C. Kramer
 C-10 Steve Penzes
 C-11 Alice Penzes
 C-12 Thomas W. King
 C-13 Tom Hudson
 C-14 Earl O'Cathey
 C-15 John K. Curtis
 C-16 Frank Harding
 C-17 Norman E. Wells
 C-18 John M. Plasterer
 C-19 Mary K. Plasterer
 C-20 Donna Streeter
 C-21 Gelvin Leeper
 C-22 Laura Foust
 C-23 Bruce Watt
 C-24 Rusty Bailey
 C-25 Bernice B. Fiedler
 C-26 Donald J. Thibodeau
 C-27 Donald J. Smith
 C-28 C. O. T. Y. Club
 C-29 James L. Betton, Jr.
 C-30 J. Douglas Ferguson
 C-31 Carolyn Hansen
 C-32 Tenino Wooden Money Society
 C-33 Reginald R. Smith
 C-34 Basil Latham
 C-35 Ricky Morse
 C-36 Don Stewart
 C-37 Mrs. M. Miners
 C-38 G. B. Davis
 C-39 Stanley M. Carling
 C-40 Gilvin A. (Corky) Ayers
 C-41 Don Cole
 C-42 Ernest Ruch
 C-43 Gerald A. Hathaway
 C-44 Robert S. Ross
 C-45 Norman R. Belsten

Garry Braunwarth >>>



Art Stephenson

Free Wood of the Month of December 2016 reported by Ross Kingdon

Our featured wood is an Art & Debbie Stephenson Christmas (#5076-025—Camels) 2009 45mm gold / green. Debbie was also popular in the hobby and mostly known as Debbie Johnson. Learn more about Art on the next page.



Art made other Christmas woods annually in the 600-700 range to distribute to his Toronto Star newspaper customers.

Upcoming Featured Woods: (note: if we receive a donation of a NEW wood, we will insert it and push the schedule out farther):

- ♦ Jim Smith's *woodencoin.com Santa Naughty / Nice* wood—January 2017
- ♦ *Calgary Numismatic Society (Sunday 2016 Spring Show wood) 2016* - February 2017
- ♦ *Your Team* (8140 - 430) 38mm blue/blue Calgary from Al Munro - March 2017
- ♦ *RCNA Convention 2016 / Ross Kingdon*—April 2017 (from Ross Kingdon, made by CWW—James Williston)
- ♦ *Sovereign Coin Shop / Appraisals Consignments* Hamilton (1,000 made 2012)—May 2017 (from Al Munro)
- ♦ *West Edmonton Coin & Stamp* - June 2017 (8300-137)
- ♦ *Timmins C. C. / Canada 150th Anniversary*—July 2017 (from France Waychison, made by CWW—James Williston)
- ♦ August, 2017—*Calgary Numismatic Society Show Wood* (Saturday 2016 Fall Show wood, red/blue) (as arranged by Al Munro)
- ♦ September, 2017—*Calgary Numismatic Society Show Wood* (Sunday 2016 Fall Show wood, red/gold) (as arranged by Al Munro)
- ♦ *West Edmonton Coin & Stamp* - October 2017 (8300-133)
- ♦ *West Edmonton Coin & Stamp* - November 2017 (8300-132)
- ♦ *West Edmonton Coin & Stamp* - February 2018 (8300-138)
- ♦ *West Edmonton Coin & Stamp* - August 2018 (8300-134) - this is the last wood in the 8-wood series
- ♦ December 2017 and January, March, April, May, June, July, September, October, November, and December, 2018 —to be advised (donations welcomed)

Editor's Challenge

Judy Blackman, our Editor, would like to invite CAWMC members to bring in new members. Each CAWMC member bringing one (1) new member will **receive a prize**. If the same CAWMC member refers three (3) or more members, this person will **receive a special prize**. If one of the new member pays two (2) years (or more) dues up front, the referring member will **receive an additional reward**. This challenge is in place July 2016 running through the end of June 2017. All prizes are graciously provided by our Editor.

CAWMC members have to ensure that the new member(s) confirm who referred them to CAWMC, and that Judy is informed so that she can promptly send the rewards to the referring CAWMC member(s).



Go TAKE THE CHALLENGE Today!



**History of CAWMC
Timber Talk
Newsletter
Editors**

**Jan. 1975 – Sept. 1979
Garry Braunwarth**

**Oct. 1979 – July 1981
Stan Clute**

**Aug. 1981 – July 1983
Albert Kasman**

**Aug. 1983 – Oct. 1992
Garry Braunwarth**

**Nov. 1992 – Dec. 1994
Lou Vesh**

**Jan. 1995 – Aug. 2008
Ross Kingdon
(14 years!!!)**



Above is a Dan Gosling photo
of Ross Kingdon

**Sept. 2008 – Dec. 2009
Tony Hine**

**Jan. 2010 – Aug. 2010
Norm Belsten**

**Sept. 2010 – Current
Judy Blackman, F.O.N.A.**



More About Art Stephenson

Art designed and issued a wood to commemorate the Royal Canadian Legion—Branch 226 Arthur Ontario's 70th Anniversary serving veterans and the community. The Village of Arthur was recognized in the November 2, 1942 Toronto Daily Star article by James Y. Nicol as Canada's Most Patriotic Village having 100 enlisted of the 890 population. The Village residents also subscribed to over \$250,000 in bonds since the war began, or an amount equal to 64% of the assessed value of the village's taxable property. This token was made by Canada Wide Woods (CWW) and handed out to all in attendance at the November 9th 2002 Legion dinner. Art had 250 woods (#5076-009 -45mm—blue / red) made and all proceeds from the sale of the remaining wood sold by the Legion at \$2 each, were donated to the Arthur Legion Trust Fund.



Art was a long-standing member in these groups: the Royal Canadian Legion; Waterloo Coin Society (Member 776); Ontario Numismatic Association (Member 1727, ONA Executive Regional Director—Area 5); South Wellington Coin Society (Director, Past President); Stratford Coin Club (Director); Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors (Governor); Royal Canadian Numismatic Association; and a number of other Numismatic clubs, societies, and associations.

Over recent years before his 2009 death, Art developed an extensive catalogue on wooden money and its history, with particular emphasis on those originated in Canada. Art could be seen regularly at monthly meetings of numismatic clubs and societies in area 4, 5 and 6 and providing important updates and insights, and Art would quickly volunteer his support at coin shows, conventions, and display / promo days. Art shook your hand, and left behind a nice surprise, and he was known for his special Christmas woods, and generosity to youth numismatic programs, and bidding on local auctions. Never has there been a participant who won as often and as many door prizes and Pirates' Treasure and Attendance Awards as Art. Following his death, several local clubs changed their Pirate's Treasure to King Arthur's Treasure (KAT). Art was after all, the fella who brought this idea from Calgary Numismatic Society into Ontario clubs.

Art fought a brave battle with his health throughout 2008 and early 2009, and this brave soldier was called home having passed at 12:08 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27th, 2009, at the Guelph General Hospital after being transferred from the Palmerston Hospital with his dear loyal loving friend Debbie Johnson at his side. Art celebrated his 60th birthday the day before.

1949



2009



My Wedding Wood

by John Regitko, CAWMC Life Member #LM265

Over the years, a lot of CAWMC members commemorated their wedding, or wedding anniversaries, with wooden tokens. In my own case, I issued 250 woods to celebrate my wedding to Monina McCullough (nee Jocson) on June 18, 1988. The woods, struck by Norm Belsten, were blue on both sides on 38mm blanks (Belsten #3908-064). The woods were handed out at the reception held at the Westbury Hotel, as well as to wooden money collectors.



Twenty-five years later, on June 18, 2013, at a gathering of friends and relatives at a Mandarin Chinese buffet restaurant, I presented Monina with a medal that was inscribed: "To Monina: Thank you for 25 wonderful years! June 18, 2013 - John."

I have had the blank in my possession for quite a number of years. The best I can remember is that I obtained it when I acquired the thousands of overruns, salesmen samples and orders that were not filled when Interbranch International Mint was placed into bankruptcy. This was probably in their showcase since it was the only copy.

We celebrated our 28th anniversary earlier this year. Following are three reasons why I might not reach 30 years with Monina. Two of the three actually occurred. I will let you figure out which one did not (hint: we don't have a driveway in the apartment complex where we now live).

Reason #1

You may have noticed that I was limping lately. Here is what I want people to believe happened:

As some men are prone to do, I forgot our anniversary. She didn't speak to me for a couple of days. I finally asked her how I could make it up to her. She said that the only way she will forgive me is if tomorrow morning, she finds something in our driveway that will go from zero to 200 in less than 10 seconds.

The following morning, she got out of bed, put on her robe and walked out to the driveway. Sitting there was the present I bought her: a bathroom scale.

And that's why I have a huge bruise on my right leg where she kicked me.

Reason #2

A number of people have asked me how long I have been married. My answer, invariably, has been: "I have been happily married to Monina for ten years."

After a dramatic pause, I continue: "Unfortunately, we have been married for 28 years."

Reason #3

I recall attending a meeting of the South Wellington Coin Society, meeting at the library in Rockwood, ON. My wife joined me, as she did quite often when I attended meetings in Brantford, Waterloo and Rockwood. She sat at the back of the meeting room. The numismatic topic was "What is your favourite number."

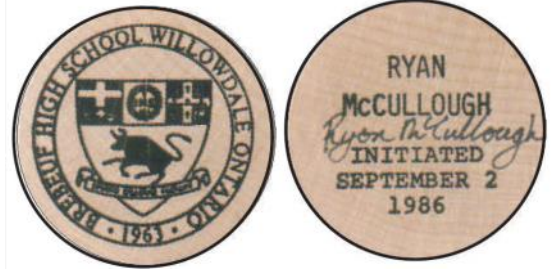
To give you an example, one of the members said that his favourite numbers are 7 and 11. He went on to show his collection of casino tokens. If I recall right, another member's favourite number was 124. That was the number of countries for which he had at least one coin in his collection.

I did not prepare any show and tell item for the program, so when I was asked what my favourite number was, at first I thought of answering: "The numbers of the next Lotto Max draw." But I settled for the number 3. When I was asked why, I answered in an attempt at original humour: "I have been married once before, I am now married to Monina, and I am looking forward to marriage #3." Without missing a beat, Scott Douglas, looking at Monina, piped up: "That might be sooner than you think, John!"

OTHER WOODS INVOLVING THE McCULLOUGH-REGITKO FAMILY

I also asked Norm Belsten to manufacture two other woods for me involving Regitko milestones.

In 1986, Ryan graduated from Brebeuf High School. I obtained a copy of the letterhead showing the school's crest, which was used on one side of the wood. Two hundred woods were made on 45 mm blanks, black on both sides (Belsten #5908-045). When the school was founded in 1963, the Canada Post designation was Willowdale, although the area's political designation was the Township of North York. In 1968, it was changed to the City of North York.

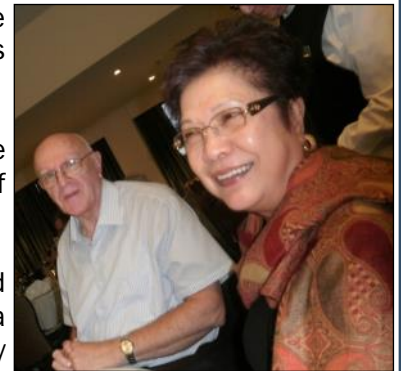


With the Provincial decree in 1998, the City of North York was dissolved and amalgamated with other municipalities to form the City of Toronto. Canada Post mail standards still recognize Etobicoke, Scarborough and North York as destinations. I still get mail addressed to North York, but the name Willowdale seems to have run its course. Canada Post doesn't really have to care what designation is used, since the postal code directs the mail to its specific destination.



The other wood, printed by Norm Belsten in blue on both sides on 38 mm blanks in a quantity of 200, commemorated Monina's 50th birthday.

Now that I let the cat out of the bag of how old she is, I hope that she does not consider that a fourth reason not to have us celebrate too many more anniversaries together!



Scarborough Coin Club Show and Woods 2016 by David Bawcutt

The Scarborough Coin Club had our 20th Annual Coin Show at Cedarbrook Community Centre on November 5, 2016. About 160 people attended our show which had about 20 tables; a club table with free giveaways, 2 display tables, a free draw every half hour (items donated by Dealers) and refreshments were available. Our displays consisted of Olympic items, coins in Lucite, British Military Currency and a Canadian WW II collection. The free giveaways were the 2015 Remembrance Coins folders from the Royal Canadian Mint, Canadian Coin News newspapers, the current issue of The Canadian Numismatic Journal from The Royal Canadian Numismatic Association, woods donated by Norm Belsten to give out to juniors who attended the show and the Detail magazine from Canada Post. We would like to thank everyone who helped to promote our show which includes the Scarborough Mirror and the Bluffs Monitor. Our club produced a wood for the show in a quantity of 100 with red foil stamping both sides.

The Scarborough Coin Club is celebrating our 41st Anniversary and our Christmas Party at our December 7th, 2016 meeting at Cedarbrook Community Centre starting at 6:00 p.m. We still have a number of 40th anniversary Club medals for sale. We have made our annual anniversary wood for the occasion in a quantity of 100 with green foil stamping both sides.

Our Club has been producing an anniversary wood each year since our 5th anniversary in 1980, a show wood each year, we have 3 special woods and 1 error wood. There are 61 woods in our set. 24 woods are now sold out. A set of 38 is available for sale or individual woods current or past are also available for sale.



John Lawford and the CN Tower Climb by John Regitko, CAWMC Life Member #LM265

The CN Tower is a 553.33-meter high (1,815.4 feet) concrete communications and observation tower in downtown Toronto. It was completed in 1976, becoming the world's tallest free-standing structure and world's tallest tower at the time. It held both records for 34 years until the completion of Burj Khalifa and Canton Tower in 2010. Since then, it became the 3rd tallest tower in the world and remains the tallest free-standing structure in the Western Hemisphere. It attracts more than two million visitors annually.



Its name "CN" originally referred to Canadian National, the railway company that built the tower. Following the railway's decision to divest non-core freight railway assets, prior to the company's privatization in 1995, it transferred the tower to the Canada Lands Company, a federal Crown corporation responsible for real estate development. Since the name CN Tower became common in daily usage, the abbreviation was eventually expanded to Canadian National Tower or Canada's National Tower. However, neither of these names is commonly used. In 1995, the CN Tower was declared one of the modern Seven Wonders of the World by the American Society of Civil Engineers. The World Federation of Great Towers has given it there second-place ranking. It cost \$63 million to build it in 1976. That translates to \$268 million in today's purchasing power.

A metal staircase reaches the main deck level after 1,776 steps (the original Tower staircase had 1,760 steps until October of 1996). It is the tallest metal staircase in the world, intended for emergency use only. It is not open to the public, except two times a year for charity stair-climb events. The stairs were originally on one of the three sides of the tower, with a glass view, but these were later replaced with the third elevator pair and the stairs were moved to the inside of the core. This windowless stairwell has been used since around 2003.



To get to the SkyPod located 100 meters (328 feet) from the main deck adds another 800 steps, for a total of 2,579 steps from the ground. No-one is allowed up these additional steps with the exception of repair personnel, firefighters and other emergency services. The 360 Restaurant, located in the main pod of the Tower, is 350 meters (1,150 feet) up from the ground. It revolves on tracks, going full circle in approx. 1 hour and 7 minutes. The world's highest glass-floored and glass-fronted elevators take you up in 58 seconds at a speed of 22 meters (15 miles) per hour. The SkyPod, at 447 meters (1,465 feet) from ground level, is another 33 stories higher.



Belsten #5900-325 - 1985 - Both sides black, size 38 mm - Qty. issued: unknown. Issued to commemorate his world record climb of the 1,760 steps a total of 13 times on October 27, 1985 in 6 hours and 6 minutes. That's 22,880 steps total.

Belsten #5900-326 - 1988 - Both sides black, Size 38 mm - Qty. issued: unknown, Issued to commemorate his 124 climbs over a 10-year period totaling 218,240 stairs.

Belsten #5900-457 - 1990 - Both sides red, size 38 mm - Qty. issued: 100, Issued to commemorate his 150 climbs totaling 264,000 steps over 12 years.

THE FUNDRAISING CLIMBS

Climbers are only allowed to climb the first 1,776 steps twice a year as fundraisers for the World Wildlife Federation in the Spring and United Way Toronto & York Region in the Fall. It takes between 20 and 40 minutes on average to make the climb. This year marks the 26th year that these climbs have taken place. Participation has increased each year, reaching over 1,000 registered climbers for each event. Although the "buy-in" for registration is to have a minimum of \$30 from sponsors, over \$2 million is raised at each event.

THE JOHN LAWFORD WOODS

John Lawford issued four different commemorative woods over a five-year period, which detailed his personal accomplishments of his climbs: He also issued 100 of a 38mm wood in 1989 to commemorate his participation in

that year's climb. It is red on the obverse and blue on the reverse (Belsten #5900-346). However, no illustration is available.

Many records are mentioned in the Guinness Book of World Records involving the CN Tower. Here are some of the climbing feats from the CN Tower website, Wikipedia. My comments are in brackets.

- ◆ John Lawford paired up with Bob Jezequel to climb the stairs 12 times in the 1979 climb.
- ◆ Bob Jezequel broke his record in 1980 by climbing the stairs 17 times. It took him 11 hours and 17 minutes, descending each time by an elevator. *(It would have taken a lot less time if he also took the elevator up.)*
- ◆ In 1979, Norman Alexander and Joe Squire hauled a 440-pound piano up the stairs in 7-1/2 hours. *(It would take just a few seconds to get it back down if they just pushed it out the window.)*
- ◆ Richard Kozici and George Beaudry carried up 50-pound bags of potatoes on their backs and still managed to finish in 20 minutes. *(Was this a delivery to the 360 Restaurant before elevators were installed?)*
- ◆ Mark William Brennan carried 35 pounds of weights in his climb in 1980. *(My size 13 shoes weigh that much.)*
- ◆ In 1986, Dan Goodwin scaled the 1,100 feet of windows of the Tower's elevator shaft twice in one day, setting a world record. *(What do you call a second story man that does this height?)*
- ◆ 72-year-old Frank Kennedy walked up the stairs backward, one step at a time without holding the handrails. *(Yea, who needs handrails, just like those unnecessary turn signal lights on cars that people don't use.)*
- ◆ Thomas Groves became the first man in 1982 to complete the climb in restraints! Observing the 56th anniversary of the death of Houdini, he walked in a straight jacket and handcuffs. *(Where did he get them from? Did he escape from the institution, or borrow them from Lady Heather?)*
- ◆ In 1984, Sukhbir Dhillon climbed the stairs in 9 minutes and 45 seconds. This record was not broken until 1989. *(It takes me that long to walk the steps to my fifth floor apartment these days, never mind 1,776 stairs.)*
- ◆ Professional stuntman Terry McGauran drove his specially modified Yamaha 250 motorcycle up the steps of the CN Tower in less than an hour. *(Let's see, it takes a person 20 minutes to walk up, but close to an hour with a motorcycle? Did he run into a bunch of red traffic lights on the way up?)*
- ◆ Dan McIntyre and Ray Dilling carried a refrigerator, a stove, and a dishwasher up the stairs in 1986 and the very next year carried up 5 more appliances. *(I wonder if the 50-pound bags of potatoes from the other two climbers were still there to make good use of the appliances?)*
- ◆ In 1989, McIntyre and Dilling carried up the engine of a Suzuki Samurai. *(Why, was the rest of the vehicle waiting for them at the top to install the engine and drive it down the steps?)*
- ◆ In 1993, in celebration of Halloween, the same two men hauled a 200-pound pumpkin up the steps. *(How do two people carry a 200 lb. pumpkin up the stairs without dropping it a few times?)*
- ◆ To kick off the 1989 stair climb, a nine-strong team from Suzuki Canada Inc. dismantled a Suzuki Samurai into 61 parts, carried them up the 1,760 steps, then re-assembled them at the top, all in 5 hours and 38 minutes. *(I had a motorcycle like that once, but it just fell apart on its own.)*
- ◆ In 1985, stuntman Roger Brown, equipped with padding, "fell down" the Tower's original 2,760 steps in 1 hour 51 minutes. *(It would have been a lot faster if he fell down the outside of the tower.)*
- ◆ In 1990, Ashrita Furman "bounced" up the 1,967 steps on a pogo stick in 57 minutes and 43 seconds. He returned in 1999 to break that record by 30 seconds. *(See, practice does make perfect.)*
- ◆ In 2000, Chrissy Redden became the fastest woman to climb the CN Tower at 11 minutes and 52 seconds, breaking the record of 11:55 set by Debbie Jensen in 1990. *(Three seconds different, all because Debbie stopped for a smoke half way up.)*

OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS



(Left) Jeff Adams survived childhood cancer, but the radiation treatment that ultimately saved his life caused burns on his spinal cord that permanently damaged it. He started using a wheelchair at a young age. Adams is a three-time Olympian and five-time Paralympian. He served as Chair of the Accessibility Committee for the Toronto 2008 Olympic Bid Committee and as the Chair for the Ontarians with Disability Advisory Council. In 2002, Adams climbed the CN Tower stairs in a specially designed wheelchair for an awareness event called "Step Up to Change". The event was designed to highlight the need for accessibility, making the point that taking it "one step at a time" is the best way to guarantee success.

(Right) Walter Decker inspired hundreds of people when he became the oldest person ever to climb the CN Tower for United Way. When the 91-year old retired, he made a commitment to stay healthy and active. The Hamilton, ON resident walks, completes 60 pushups every day and climbs the Hamilton escarpment at least twice a week.





(Left) On October 29, 1989, Brendan Keenoy, a police detective from Toronto, took just 7 minutes and 52 seconds to climb the stairs, making him the fastest person to run up the tallest free-standing structure in the Western hemisphere.

There are many more accomplishments and world records not mentioned in this article. For additional information on the charitable climbs for the benefit of the World Wildlife Federation and United Way Toronto & York Region, Google "CN Tower climbs."

WOODS FEATURING THE CN TOWER

Speaking of fundraising and the CN Tower, two woods were hand painted by graphic artist and coin designer Donald D. Paterson featuring the CN Tower. The woods were auctioned off at a banquet of the Toronto International Coin Fair, with the proceeds going to the Canadian Numismatic Association. The oval uniface piece, measuring 5" wide x 3-1/4" high, shows the CN Tower towering high above the Toronto skyline. It also incorporates the TICF logo designed by Paterson. This wood was bid up to \$80 at the Fall 1985 banquet. The 5" diameter round uniface piece, made out of plywood with a smooth outer layer, used India ink and white, blue, grey and black water colours. Note the exaggerated height of the CN Tower in relation to the Toronto skyline. The successful bid was also \$80, as far as I can remember. I was the successful bidder for both and still have them in my collection of coin designer memorabilia over 30 years later. I outbid the late Al Bliman, a former CAWMC member, for both pieces.

One of my favourite woods is the 45 mm wood with the CN Tower mimicking the official 1991 CNA Convention medal. I showed Paterson the proof sheet of the medal that was sent to me by the Royal Canadian Mint (who agreed to strike the Convention medal) for approval of the design. He took out his India ink pen, drew the wood illustrated here and presented it to me.



Left:
India ink
drawing on
5" x 3-1/4"
wood by
D. Paterson



Right:
Drawing on 5"
plywood with India
ink and water
colours by D.
Paterson

The reason it is my favourite is probably due to:

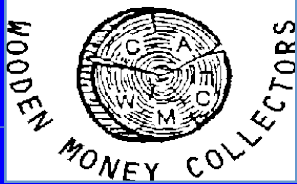


The same design was also used by Jim Edwards in silk-screening one side of the woods ordered by a number of CAWMC members. The 1991 CNA Convention medal from which the design was copied by graphic artist and coin designer Donald D. Paterson.

Out of about 50 woods that Paterson hand-painted for me over the years (most for fundraising for the CNA), this is the most detailed (quite appropriate, since the CNA medal is also the most detailed object ever engraved by the engraving staff at the RCM. I was the chairman of the 1991 CNA Convention. As the CNA liaison to the RCM, I was involved with the design's selection, approval and distribution process from beginning to end.

Chairing a record fourth CNA convention and announcing my retirement from show business and active participation in the hobby at the banquet, brings back many great memories. I met a lot of wonderful people and did volunteer work with a lot of them. (However, the announcement of my retirement was premature by at least 25 years.) It is a nice memento of a coin designer who became a friend due to our mutual love for, and involvement, in the hobby.



CANADIAN
ASSOCIATION**Website:**<http://www.nunet.ca/>**Editor:**Judy Blackman, F.O.N.A.,
K.St.E., RCNA LM415**E-mail:**jblackman@rogers.com**Assistant Editor:**

Norm Belsten, LM C45

E-mail:nbelsten@sympatico.ca**Phone:**

(905) 868-9187

**Timber Talk awarded
in July 2012, R.C.N.A.****Best Regional /
National Newsletter.****Thank you to all who
contribute to making
TT the success it is!****CAWMC is a member
of RCNA and the
SOC of CAWMC is a
member of the ONA****Black Fly Bar** by David (Rusty) Phillips / Olde Fiddle Foot

Recently I acquired a Black Fly Bar wood located in / at Baker Creek, Alaska. This location I had never heard of, so inquired of Dick Hanscom (Alaska Rare Coins, Fairbanks), as to any knowledge he might have as to the location of Baker Creek. Not only did he give me a clue as to its whereabouts (south of the Elliot Hwy. and about 20 plus miles before Manley Hot Springs), he also gave me a lead for the owners / operators of the Bar (Ken & Dee Born). I was thus able to be in touch with Ken & Dee, who graciously supplied me with not only the following details for the Bar and wood, but also great photos of the Bar and its grounds:



The Bar is 150 road miles (Elliot Hwy.) from Fairbanks, and a further 15 miles overland from the Hwy. (via a very rudimentary road), to the junction where Baker Creek meets the Tanana River. It also can be reached by boat from Manley Hot Springs, 15 miles down the Tanana River. The Bar is a private / family run Bar, on privately owned property, and operates when the Born family are "on site." It caters to families and friends who camp and visit the picturesque location, and who are there to camp and enjoy, fish, hunt, hike, boat on the river, kayak on the creek, and if / when winter conditions

permit, to snowmobile in the surrounding area.

The Bar wood is the standard 1-1/2" (38mm). 500 were made in 2010. Only the one issue was made, so no varieties. Distribution is only at the Bar and woods are still in use. The Borns passed along a most interesting story as to how the Bar got its name, as follows:

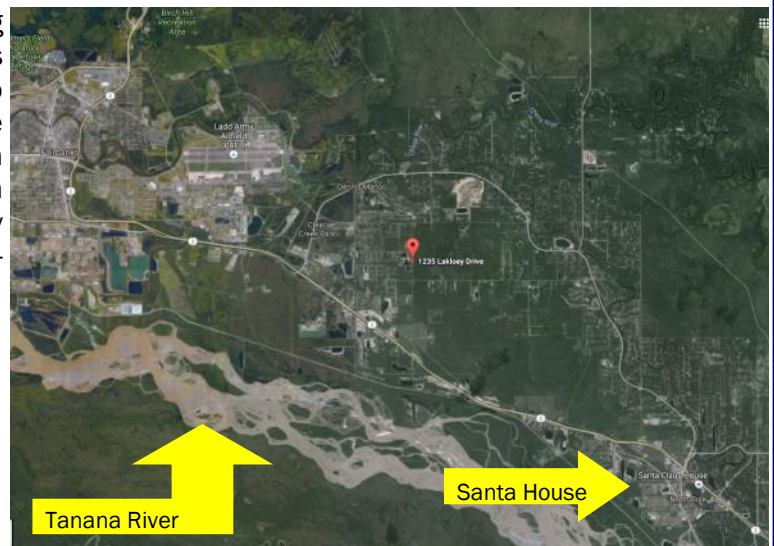


"When we poured the sealant over the Bar, it was quite late in the evening, so we went to bed knowing it would be cured by the next morning. It was permanently cured with a million tiny black flies that were apparently Very Attracted to the smell!!!! With no energy to redo / repair Thus the name: THE BLACK FLY BAR !!!"

My sincere Thanks to Ken & Dee for all the above information and the photos!!

The Borns [Editor's Note]

Out of season, Ken & Dee Born own and operate Homestead Pumping & Thawing in North Pole. Their sense of humor is evident by their company tag line "Our ROYAL FLUSH beats your FULL HOUSE!" The business provides Septic Pumping Services, Thawing and Excavation. Even more FUN is how close their home, and two businesses are to Santa's House at the North Pole. Kenneth J. Born and Delyse (Dee) Renne Born (both 59) reside at 1235 Lakloey Drive, North Pole, Alaska 99705-5844 (red balloon on map right).





Appointed Officers

Editor: Judy Blackman,
F.O.N.A.
E-Mail:
jblackman@rogers.com

Assistant Editor:
Norm Belsten

**Distribution & Featured
Monthly Wood:**
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2643, Station M, Calgary,
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Jim Is Back!

Jim Smith (www.woodencoin.com) P.O. Box 166, Likely, B.C. V0L 1N0 Cda., Ph: (250) 790-2554, e-mail likelyj9@gmail.com, has re-opened his business of making high-quality screened woods from Beetle Kill Pine and Fir (he's made over 150,000 to date). He has donated a Christmas 2016 / New Year 2017 wood which we will featured as our wood of the month for January 2017. He also sent your editor 12 woods (4 of each of these 3 woods).

Jim explains, "At the beginning of each school year woodencoin.com donates a batch of Wise Owl Safety Awards to the school bus driver. Allocating the coin for exceptional behavior leads to a prize for the student holding the most coins at the end of the year.

Jim's traditional sense of humour comes out on the Prime Minister of Canada wood when he says, "Sunny Ways or Sonny Ways."

Of course there is the timely wood for the U.S. Presidential Candidates with Trump's showing his typical frown-like smile and Clinton her posed-frozen smile. Of course we now know that come January 20th, 2017, Donald Trump President Elect will be inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States of America.

Congratulations Jim on your resurrection! Thank you for your kind donations of woods for CAWMC members. Also thank you for finding a way to recycle this lumber!

Jim explains,

"WoodenCoin.com is committed to understanding and implementing the ever changing eco-friendlier systems of silk-screen printing as they develop.

Almost all of the custom equipment we use for wooden coin production is built of recycled plastics and metals reclaimed from disposal sites. We attempt to re-use and rebuild before recycle or reclaim and certainly prior to discard. We attempt to coordinate the process for maximum productivity of all products utilized. As a rural resident we utilize an independent system and so return nothing to city sewer networks. To save in redundant transport we offer a Direct Shipping Options. We will send the desired product directly to the end user with no reference to woodencoin.com in the accompanying paperwork. Gift wrapping options are also available."

